

chance to grant relief to millions of Americans toiling under an unjust minimum wage, but later this week we will also have the opportunity to grant relief to the millions of Americans who are suffering from debilitating and life-threatening diseases by passing the bipartisan Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act.

In Connecticut, I was proud to have overseen passage of the Nation's first law investing State funds in life-saving stem cell research. But our \$100 million success story in Connecticut was a bit-sweet one, since our effort was made necessary only by the Federal Government's failure to act.

Mr. Speaker, I will be even prouder to join my colleagues on both sides of the aisle this week to support legislation that will buttress the hopes of millions of Americans with the tangible support and resources of their Federal Government, and I hope that this unprecedented show of support here in the people's House will give our President cause to reconsider his unfounded and unpopular decision to oppose this life-saving initiative.

#### WAR IN IRAQ OF BENEFIT TO NO ONE

(Ms. SHEA-PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Mr. Speaker, the President of the United States is going to urge a troop escalation in Iraq. I must protest this for the following reasons:

This war was wrong from the beginning. Our focus should have been Afghanistan. We had a real opportunity to bring freedom and change to Afghanistan. Instead, we diverted our attention to Iraq with disastrous results.

More troops will not bring the United States more support from the Iraqis, but it will bring our troops and the people of Iraq more misery, more fighting, more injuries and more death.

We are spending our children's future in this war.

There are no benefits to either the United States, to Iraq or to the world.

#### RIGHTING A WRONG FOR OUR WORKING FAMILIES

(Mr. WILSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to say that what will be going on today is righting a wrong for working families in America, and that is raising the minimum wage.

It has been a full 10 years since President Clinton was able to raise the minimum wage to help the people who work for us on a daily basis. With all the increased costs we have today, of housing, of health care, it is just impossible for people to be able to make it. In Ohio, we have seen people suffer because the minimum wage has not been relevant to what is going on in their life.

Many years ago, Henry Ford was criticized for saying that he paid his workers better than others, and his logic was his workers would be able to buy the cars that they manufactured. We want the people today to be able to have the right to be able to buy the things that they need, certainly for their families. So raising the minimum wage is the right thing to do.

#### DEMOCRATS MAKE GOOD ON THEIR PROMISE TO TAKE AMERICA IN A NEW DIRECTION

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, Democrats promised that if the American people trusted us with control of Congress, we would take America in a new direction. So far, we have made good on our promise to break the link between lobbyists and legislation, and we reinstituted pay-as-you-go budgeting.

But our work is not done. We are now in our first 100 hours of legislation, and already we have passed legislation that will make America more secure by implementing the independent 9/11 Commission recommendations.

Today, we will give Americans a much-needed pay raise by increasing the minimum wage; later this week, we are going to begin making health care more affordable by giving the Federal Government the ability to negotiate for lower prescription drug prices; and tomorrow we are going to give hope to millions of Americans by allowing stem cell research. Next week, we will also move down the path to energy independence by ending subsidies to Big Oil and investing in renewable energy.

Democrats promise to deliver so we can take America in a new direction.

#### ELECTION OF MINORITY MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 45) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

##### H. RES. 45

*Resolved*, That the following named members be and are hereby elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

(1) COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.—Mr. Everett, Mr. Lucas, Mr. Moran of Kansas, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Johnson of Illinois, Mr. Graves, Mr. Bonner, Mr. Rogers of Alabama, Mr. King of Iowa, Mrs. Musgrave, Mr. Neugebauer, Mr. Boustany, Mr. Kuhl of New York, Ms. Foxx, Mr. Conaway, Mr. Fortenberry, Mrs. Schmidt, Mr. Smith of Nebraska, Mr. McCarthy of California, and Mr. Walberg.

(2) COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES.—Mr. Saxton, Mr. McHugh, Mr. Everett, Mr. Bartlett of Maryland, Mr. McKeon, Mr. Thornberry, Mr. Jones of North Carolina, Mr.

Hayes, Mr. Calvert, Mrs. Jo Ann Davis of Virginia, Mr. Akin, Mr. Forbes, Mr. Miller of Florida, Mr. Wilson of South Carolina, Mr. LoBiondo, Mr. Cole of Oklahoma, Mr. Bishop of Utah, Mr. Turner, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Miller of Michigan, Mr. Gingrey, Mr. Rogers of Alabama, Mr. Franks of Arizona, Mrs. Drake, Mrs. McMorris Rodgers, Mr. Conaway, and Mr. Davis of Kentucky.

(3) COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR.—Mr. Petri, Mr. Hoekstra, Mr. Castle, Mr. Souder, Mr. Ehlers, Mrs. Biggert, Mr. Platts, Mr. Keller, Mr. Wilson of South Carolina, Mr. Kline, Mr. Inglis of South Carolina, Mrs. McMorris Rodgers, Mr. Marchant, Mr. Price of Georgia, Mr. Fortuño, Mr. Boustany, Ms. Foxx, Mr. Kuhl of New York, Mr. Bishop of Utah, Mr. David Davis of Tennessee, and Mr. Walberg.

(4) COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE.—Mr. Hall, Mr. Hastert, Mr. Upton, Mr. Stearns, Mr. Deal of Georgia, Mr. Whitfield, Mr. Norwood, Mrs. Cubin, Mr. Shimkus, Mrs. Wilson of New Mexico, Mr. Shadegg, Mr. Pickering, Mr. Fossella, Mr. Buyer, Mr. Radanovich, Mr. Pitts, Mrs. Bono, Mr. Walden of Oregon, Mr. Terry, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Rogers of Michigan, Mrs. Myrick, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Murphy, and Mr. Burgess.

(5) COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES.—Mr. Baker, Ms. Pryce of Ohio, Mr. Castle, Mr. King of New York, Mr. Royce, Mr. Lucas, Mr. Paul, Mr. Gillmor, Mr. LaTourette, Mr. Manzullo, Mr. Jones of North Carolina, Mrs. Biggert, Mr. Shays, Mr. Gary G. Miller of California, Mrs. Capito, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Hensarling, Mr. Garrett of New Jersey, Ms. Ginny Brown-Waite of Florida, Mr. Barrett of South Carolina, Mr. Renzi, Mr. Gerlach, Mr. Pearce, Mr. Neugebauer, Mr. Price of Georgia, Mr. Davis of Kentucky, Mr. McHenry, Mr. Campbell of California, Mr. Putnam, Mrs. Blackburn, Mrs. Bachmann, and Mr. Roskam.

(6) COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM.—Mr. Burton of Indiana, Mr. Shays, Mr. McHugh, Mr. Mica, Mr. Souder, Mr. Platts, Mr. Cannon, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Turner, Mr. Issa, Mr. Marchant, Mr. Westmoreland, Mr. McHenry, Ms. Foxx, Mr. Bilbray, and Mr. Sali.

(7) COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY.—Mr. Smith of Texas, Mr. Shays, Mr. Souder, Mr. Tom Davis of Virginia, Mr. Daniel E. Lungren of California, Mr. Rogers of Alabama, Mr. Jindal, Mr. Reichert, Mr. McCaul of Texas, Mr. Dent, Ms. Ginny Brown-Waite of Florida, Mrs. Blackburn, Mr. Bilirakis, and Mr. David Davis of Tennessee.

(8) COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS.—Mr. Smith of New Jersey, Mr. Burton of Indiana, Mr. Gallegly, Mr. Rohrabacher, Mr. Royce, Mr. Chabot, Mr. Manzullo, Mr. Tancredo, Mr. Paul, Mr. Flake, Mrs. Jo Ann Davis of Virginia, Mr. Pence, Mr. McCotter, Mr. Wilson of South Carolina, Mr. Boozman, Mr. Barrett of South Carolina, Mr. Mack, Mr. Fortenberry, Mr. McCaul of Texas, Mr. Poe, Mr. Inglis of South Carolina, and Mr. Fortuño.

(9) COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY.—Mr. Sensenbrenner, Mr. Coble, Mr. Gallegly, Mr. Goodlatte, Mr. Chabot, Mr. Daniel E. Lungren of California, Mr. Cannon, Mr. Keller, Mr. Issa, Mr. Pence, Mr. Forbes, Mr. King of Iowa, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Franks of Arizona, Mr. Gohmert, and Mr. Jordan.

(10) COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES.—Mr. Saxton, Mr. Gallegly, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Gilchrest, Mr. Calvert, Mr. Cannon, Mr. Tancredo, Mr. Flake, Mr. Renzi, Mr. Pearce, Mr. Brown of South Carolina, Mr. Fortuño, Mrs. McMorris Rodgers, Mr. Jindal, Mr. Gohmert, Mr. Cole of Oklahoma, Mr. Bishop of Utah, Mr. Shuster, Mr. Heller of Nevada, Mr. Sali, and Mr. Lamborn.

(11) COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.—Mr. Sensenbrenner, Mr. Smith of